

## PRESS RELEASE



**For Immediate Release**  
Tuesday, May 3, 2016

**Contact:** Greg Bortolin  
775.687.9201  
gbortolin@doe.nv.gov

### **CLARK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS HIRED 104 SOCIAL WORKERS TO BE PLACED IN 77 SCHOOLS**

**CARSON CITY, Nev.** – Clark County became the first school district in Nevada to fill all of its social work positions created by the 2015 Legislature and place these mental health professionals into schools. The new social workers will help create a positive social climate and assist children and their families with wrap-around services.

“For a school district to find and hire 104 mental health workers and professionals in a short period of time, it speaks to the commitment that the Clark County School District has made to its children,” said Eddie Ableser, Ph.D., Director of the Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment. “These mental health professionals who are imbedded directly in schools have the ability to transform the culture to reflect a safe and empowering learning environment.”

Senate Bill 515 awarded the Department of Education \$5.6 million in block-grant monies to school districts based on need as designated from the School Climate Survey that they took in December. Clark County was awarded 104 social workers to be placed in 77 schools. Lyon County has also filled all six of its positions.

“We were thrilled to be awarded 104 of the 161 school social worker positions and looked forward to the challenge of filling those positions,” said Tammy Malich, Clark County Deputy Superintendent. “The partnership between the Nevada Department of Education and the Clark County School District on SB 515 has created a strong foundation to provide needed support to our schools that will result in improved school climate and assist in meeting the needs of our students.”